2:Sanders E-5 (no date) 1949 EEl Bulgaria EEl

353 777 No home was really furnished until it had a small wooden iconostas which contained an icon, a picture of the Virgin or a saint. The iconostas was usually placed in the east or southeast corner of the room. In case some disaster befell the family, they found out to which saint the unlucky day belonged, and got a picture of him for their iconostas. Thereafter, on his name day they did no work and used holy water in the house. In the *kandilo,* the small lamp before the icon, they burned olive oil during church time and on the eve of holidays. In case the family had used holy water at home in the hope of curing some sick person, the flowers with which the water had been sprinkled were placed on the household shrine.

352 285 Usually there were a number of small implements or articles scattered about the room. A two-edged axe might be leaning against the door frame, and old clothes or bed clothes hanging from a long thick pole in a corner. I often saw in common use small baskets obtained from the gypsies. For pay, the gypsies asked the purchaser to fill the basket with beans or wheat, which they retained. The peasants themselves, especially the shepherds and goatherds with much leisure on their hands, made the very large baskets or hampers used for carrying hay or straw. These baskets stood in the entryway or hung under the eaves.

● 312 Only a few of the Dragalevtsy homes had a washstand, but even for these the water had to be carried from the nearest fountain. Over and over again the peasant women would say:

"We would like to have running water in our houses because it would help us a lot and make our life a little easier. But we don't have the money, and all this needs much money for installing a water system in the house, and also we would have to pay quite a high tax to the Obshtina. Anyway, the fountains in the village are sufficient and it doesn't take us much time to go and get water."

415 312 The water was carried from the fountains either in clay vessels called *stomni* or in the more modern large copper vessels called *mentsi.* The long sticks on the ends of which the water vessels were suspended were called *kobilitsi.* The water from the fountains was used only for preparing food and drinking, and the water for the animals came from the little brooks in the street. Maintaining personal cleanliness was

659
175
563
795
793

the Bulgarian State, was maintained by the Bulgarian authorities by means of the institution of the muftis, whose network covered all the Turkish-inhabited regions and which was centered at Sofia in the person of a Great Mufti, elected by the regional muftis. The Great Mufti was assisted by a Council elected by all the Moslems in the country. Thus, the Turkish minority not only enjoyed equal political rights with other citizens, but also was provided with a system of self-government concerning all matters regulated by the Sheriat. Such was the privileged position of the great Moslem community, which was able to support a considerable number of mosques (no less than two thousand) and schools (more than one thousand) and to publish several newspapers in its own language.

The Kemalists were extremely dissatisfied with this state of affairs. It frustrated the expansion of their reforms beyond the frontiers of Turkey. The Government in Sofia, however, took a firm stand and refused to change anything in the direction desired by Ankara. What was more, the Turks in Bulgaria, being a compact and a large group, were a source of votes for the politicians, who did much to raise their primitive standard of living. Great projects were carried out by the Bulgarian State over several years whose purpose it was to provide drinking water and irrigation for the arid region of Dobrudja (Northeastern Bulgaria) predominantly populated by Turks. [312]

653 in 1939 — 655.600.000, in 1940 — 826.500.000 and in 1941 — 1.130.000.000. These amounts were spent for hospitals, sanatoriums, establishements for economic and agricultural activity, veterinary hospitals, medical centres, public baths, libraries, churches etc.

In the beginning of the Second World War Bulgaria had 4.289 inhabited localities, 2.535 or 59% of which were under public planning and regulation; while out of 384 inhabited localities in the territory of South Dobroudja, annexed to Bulgaria in 1940, only 8 of them enjoyed public plan and regulation. Only 15 out of 2.000 inhabited localities in the provisionally annexed territories of Macedonia, Morava region and Thrace had plans approved for regulation and improvement!

• 312 If we throw a glance on the water supply situation we would obtain the following picture for Bulgaria:

in the cities:	complete water supply	87.4%
	partial " "	20.2%
	no " "	2.4%
in the villages:	full " "	21.0%
	partial " "	18.1%
	no " "	60.9%

On the other hand, in the annexed part of Dobroudja and the provisionally annexed territories the picture is:

for the cities:	full water supply	0.0%
	partial " "	60.0%
	no " "	40.0%
for the villages:	full " "	0.0%
	partial " "	5.7%
	no " "	94.3%

During the 20 years before the war, Bulgaria laid 4.608 klms. of metalic pipes for water supply and in the new territories, provisionally administered by Bulgaria, a total of 220 klms. of water supply pipes were laid.

We feel that Bulgaria has reason to be proud of the above accomplishment in that respect.

377 There has been a great progress made in the electrification of the country in recent times, but the subject is too large to cover in this brief study. According to the electrification plan of the entire country, in addition to the present big power plants by the coal mines of Pernic, Rakovski, the Rila River and the Vatcha River by Plovdiv, huge power and transmission plants are projected to carry electric energy to

8: Bojkoff K-4, 5 (no date) 1946 EE1 Bulgaria EE1

the remotest corners of the land at a very cheap rate, ranging from 0.5 to 1.0 leva per kilowatt hour. This plan is being revised now and it is anticipated that the enlarged project would absorb an expenditure of 20 billion leva. The consumption of electric energy then would be distributed as follows:

For inhabited localities	28.3 %
For agriculture, including irrigation but without azotic fertilizers	13.—%
For transportation	8.9 %
For industries	45.4 %
and for other purposes	4.3 %
	100.—%

What has been said before about motor-car communifications and roads may be supplemented by the following figures; for the 10 year period from 1932 to 1941 Bulgaria has built 4.568 km. of new roads, 15.736 km of levelling and new road bedding, 17.565 km. of new bridges and drainage works. This meant a total expenditure of 4,150,540,490 leva or about 550,000,000 leva per year. For the same period we have 615 km. of new railway lines at an expenditure of 1,620,000,000 leva.

We will not dwell on the question of dams and irrigation, but will only mention the completed big dam on the river Iskar in the Rila Mountain, with a capacity of 15.000.000 cubic meters of water which is 50 meters high and will note that Bulgaria has spent, during the most trying period of life (1939 — 1941) for:

drainage works	42.750.490.—	leva
stream corrections	22.521.837.—	leva
irrigation	9 469.815.—	leva or a
total of	74.742.142.—	leva.

This was not the end of Bulgaria's efforts. Bulgaria was anxious to take care of the countries which were provisionally under her administration during the last war. Here is some information taken from a controversy on the subject.

A Greek paper discussing the subject of homes and other buildings built by the Bulgarian authorities in the Aegean Coast Region, writes among other things the following:

„If we overlook the public bath at Xanthi built by them for the pleasure and enjoyment of their brothers the Germans,

of Razlog on the upper reaches of the river Mesta may serve as a convenient centre for excusions in this maze of mountains mostly clad with pine and fir forests. The three beautiful mountain lakes dominated by the majestic summit of the El-Tepe, the highest peak of the Pirrin range, reaching an altitude of 2684 metres, may be easily reached from the townlet of Bansko, a few kilometres to the south of Razlog. Tourist huts have been erected at several points, and recently excellent roads have been constructed, so that the more adventurous type of tourist, intent on roaming off the beaten track, can indulge in protracted and most enjoyable rambles in what is certainly a *terra incognita,* even to most Bulgarians.

It is astonishing that the Bulgarian Government has done nothing to popularise Sofia as a tourist centre, and yet few towns in Eastern Europe can rival it as such. It is at a convenient driving distance from the Balkan mountains which offer a veritable kaleidoscope of enchanting views. Century old oak and beech forests cover generally the rolling undulating mountain valleys, their shaded glens offering the most delectable relaxation after the heat of the plain. Another attractive forest resort is Tcham-Koria lying on the heavily wooded slopes of the Rila, amid enchanting mountain scenery, at a distance of 69 klm. to the south east of Sofia. The greatest attraction of Sofia is of course its mineral and thermal springs. In the centre of the town is a modern bathing establishment, built on the site ot the ancient Roman thermal baths, and endowed with an electro-therapeutic section. In close proximity to Sofia are a number of other thermal springs most of which are endowed with excellent bathing accomodation and easily accessible from Sofia by either tram, train, or motor bus. Such are the thermal establishments of Bankia, one of the finest in Bulgaria, that of Gorna-Bania, Ovtcha-Kupel, and of Kniajevo. Bulgaria is

BULGARIA-PAST & PRESENT

317 5-9 one of the richest countries in the world as regards mineral and thermal springs of all kinds. Among the most noted mineral springs is that of Solu-Dervent, lying at about 72 klm. from Sofia, on the railway line to Plovdiv, it possesses a high radioactivity, $588_{10\text{-}10}$ Curies, and a temperature of 65° centigrade, and is specially recommended for cancer. Another most attractive watering place is that of Hissar, some 45 klm. north of Plovdiv. Within a radius of two kilometres there are twenty springs, all varying in their composition and their temperatures. The present baths are built on the site of the old Roman ones. Tne temperature of the water is 47° C. with a radioactivity of $114_{10\text{-}10}$ Curies; it is noted for its curatice properties for all diseases of the liver and kidneys. Hissar possesses another great attraction, that of its Roman walls, built in the form of a rectangle. It is supposed to be the old Roman town of Diocletianopolis which successfully resisted in 587 the siege of the Avars. The present walls were restored in the reign of Justinian I but there is a Roman inscription at the Momina Baths dating from 308 A. D. Its ruins would form a most interesting source of study to archeologists while taking the waters at this most agreeable Spa. It is surrounded by rose gardens and pos sesses delightful shaded walks rendering it a most agreeable residence during May and June, all the more so since it 5-9 possesses excellent hotels and pensions. At that time of the year visitors at Hissar can easily visit the famous Valley of Roses without interrupting their treatment, for Karlovo, Kalofer and Kazanlik, the centres of the Attar of roses industry, are all within easy reach. as well as the famous Shipka Monastery. A railway line connects Hissar with Plovdiv, formerly known as Philippolis. This is a town with a most picturesque aspect, being built on five hills of syenite, two of which have been turned into parks. The thickly wooded Sehayat Tepe is unique in its kind, com-

accomplish was done by Bulgarian gardeners. Ten years ago no one among us knew that it was possible to produce tomatoes, peppers and other vegetables in our land. To-day, however, this is a fact, thanks to the ingenuity of the Bulgarians".

Of fresh vegetables 55 truck loads were exported in 1933 to Central Europe, and of these the most appreciated were the tomatoes grown in south Bulgaria, which many experts affirm to surpass in quality even those of Italy. During the summer of 1935 some 2750 tons of fresh tomatoes were exported to Central Europe. No serious efforts have been made to develop the export of tinned vegetables, though in price they are 50% cheaper than similar ones sold in France, and in every respect as good. Lack of capital, and of commercial connections abroad have prevented the few canning factories to launch in a forward policy which necessarily involves risks and losses at the start. The only leguminous plant which has been exported on a large scale was haricot beans, of which Bulgaria was always a large exporter, the high quality of this product having secured for her a certain preeminence among Near Eastern countries The area devoted to this crop was 73,162 hectares and the yield 74,677,000 kg. in 1933 of which 32,568 tons were exported. The area planted with pulse, vegetables, potatoes and that set aside for market gardening was estimated respectively at 95,000, 13,500, 14,000, and 38,000 hectares in 1932.

A great impediment to the steady development of agriculture in Bulgaria is the periodic drought which completely undermines the economic position of the small holders, which even without this scourge, is never too bright. The mean annual rainfall for the period 1920—1930 was 578·2 litres per square metre, but this unfortunately is not evenly apportioned, the mountainous western and south western parts of the country having a much hea-

vier rainfall than the eastern part, in which the rainfall is often deficient. For this reason schemes for storing up rain water which is carried off too rapidly by the rivers without benefitting sufficiently agriculture have always engaged the attention of Bulgarian agriculturists and engineers. One of the latter, M. I. I. Mavrov prepared a comprehensive survey which was published at the expense of the government, in which full details are given as to the possibilities of regulating the water supply. 250,000 hectares could be brought under irrigation in the bassin of the Martsa, 150,000 hectares in the region of Stara Zagora, Sliven and Yambol, 100,000 hectares in the neighbourhood of Kustendil, Radomir and Dubnitsa, and smaller areas in the valleys near Zlatitsa. Kazanlik, Gorna-Orehovitsa, as well as a large part of the Danubian plain By constructing dams and correcting the channels of the Maritsa, Tundja, Isker and Yantra rivers. these could be rendered navigable for a part of their courses, and hydraulic energy of about 2,300,000 H. P. could be rendered available, which could be utilised for the production of calcium carbide, aluminium, (bauxite is found in the Rhodopes) nitrates and the delopment of a wood-pulp industry. Since the publication of this work, the subject of irrigation has often been discussed, and less ambitious plans have been put forward. In 1926, the American Yulen Co., offered to construct a dam on one of the affluents of the Maritsa at a cost of 1200 million leva which would have provided enough water to irrigate 130,000 hectares, but negotiations fell through. Actually the possibility of irrigating some 21,000 hectares by constructing two dams to store up the waters of the Mutavir and Luda-Yana, two small tributaries of the Maritsa, is being closely studied, and as this undertaking would only cost about 250 million leva it is possible that it might materialise, for it is reckoned that the yield of irrigated land increases three

241 fold, and its market value fourfold which would render the execution of this plan profitable. In south Bulgaria two
•312 crops instead of one could be grown annually on irrigated land which moreover would be safeguarded against drought The Ministry of public works also contemplates the harnessing of the river Ossem in north Bulgaria, that some 42,000 hectares may be irrigated in the region of Lovets. This scheme would render available hydraulic energy to the amount of 38,000 H. P. which could be utilised for pumping water from the Danube and in order to water certain parts of the Danubian plain. A smaller scheme, that of bringing about 6000 hectares under irrigation near Nevrokop, in south western Bulgaria, by utilising the river Mesta is also receiving attention and will be carried out in the near future. From a close study of the data collected, it would appear that the irrigation of south Bulgaria is quite feasible and economically sound. The difficulty which stands in the way is the remuneration of the capital invested in the undertaking which could be secured under the present circumstances only by payment in kind, a consideration which is likely to discourage would-be promoters.

312 Concerning irrigation and water-adduction plans, it would be pertinent to mention the efforts which have been made to supply the waterless area of the Deli Orman in north-eastern Bulgaria with a supply of water. In this area of some 600 square klm. wholly devoid of springs and rivers, a network of water mains has been recently laid in order to supply some 569 villages with water, a considerable achievement in view of the financial stress in which the country finds itself. A similar noteworthy work was the adduction of water from the Rila mountains to Sofia, a distance of 82 klm. at a cost of 740 million leva completed in 1933; the difference of altitude being utilised to generate electric energy of 15,000 H. P.

231 Cattle raising and aviculture are fairly well developed, eggs figuring after tobacco as the second item on the list

extends from the Rumanian border south to the towns of Karnobat and Burgas. 131

Location and Types of Settlement. The presence of water is an important factor in the location of the settlements. Villages tend to be located along the Marica, Topolnica Strema and Tundža rivers. In the Tundža Mountains settlements are on the slopes of hills. Isolated hills in the Marica valley are preferred spots. Settlements rarely descend into the fertile river plain, most of them being located at its edge (Gellert, 1937: 142-43). In the Sub-Balkan regions, settlements are rarely at the bottom of steep valleys or on steep slopes, a gentler terrain being preferred (Gellert, 1937: 143). 361 133 [312]

Due to the irregular terrain and deep valleys in the Topolnica and Ihtimanska Sredna Gora regions, the settlements are in the form of hamlets (mahala, kolibi) of 2-10 farmsteads, scattered over the spurs overlooking a valley in which is located the main village (Gellert, 1937: 168). In eastern Bulgaria the villages show no regular plan. In the plains the villages are large and the buildings less crowded, the roads being often exaggeratedly wide. In mountainous terrain the roads are narrow and crooked, often unsuitable for carts (Gellert, 1937: 164). [491]

House Types. In eastern Bulgaria the building materials are boards, wicker, mud and unfired brick. Usually a framework of wood is filled with wicker, which may or may not be plastered. Compact walls are often made of mud, unfired brick or stones, strengthened with horizontal bond timbers. These may form the foundation on which the upper story of timber-framing is built. The hipped roof is of straw, reeds or brushwood. On the longer side of the house the eaves extend over a veranda that is raised about 10 centimeters from the ground. The walls are generally whitewashed, and each room has an exit to the veranda. Chimneys are of woven brushwood or of fieldstones and are plastered with mud. Bulgarians often build one half of the house first and plan to add more rooms later; when one side of the roof is not hipped it means that the house is not finished (Gellert, 1934: 8). 342

A two to three room house is common. Often the veranda is between the protruding side rooms (fig. 56c). The central room is generally windowless and serves as a winter kitchen. Frequently many farm units are included in the main house. One of the side rooms may be transformed into a stable with a separate entrance from the outside (fig. 56c) (Gellert, 1934: 8-9).

Two-story buildings are in the majority (fig. 56a, 56b). In the ground floor are the stable and cellar. Often annexes are built on the sides (fig. 56c) and the back, and the roof is extended over them. Here, too, the veranda is enclosed by the two side rooms. The stairway leading up to the veranda may be a simple one of wood or a massive one of unfired brick (Gellert, 1934: 10-11). While